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*# AF/1713*

**MS AF**  
**REPLY UNDER**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.116**  
**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**  
**EXAMINING GROUP 1713**

**PATENT**  
**0425-0866P**

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Daisuke SHIBA et al. Conf.: 7708  
Appl. No.: 09/994,651 Group: 1713  
Filed: November 28, 2001 Examiner: T. Zalukaeva  
For: POWDER DISPERSANT FOR HYDRAULIC COMPOSITIONS

**REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

**MS AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 31, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 22, 2003, the period for reply having been extended one (1) month to April 22, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.